

Claytonia Virginica L. A number of large colonies in a hardwood swamp.

Polanisia trachysperma T. & G. A waif from the west but growing abundantly on the gravelly banks of the Salmonkill at Lime Rock.

Lythrum alatum Pursh. A large colony on a dry hillside not far from Twin Lakes.

Vaccinium Canadense Richards. Found by Mr. Weatherby of East Hartford in one of the mountain swamps.

Polemonium Van Bruntiae Britton. Three vigorous plants in a swamp bordering a lake. Seems to be native.

Hydrophyllum Virginicum L. In thicket along set-backs from the Housatonic river.

Scutellaria parvula Michx. Wet meadow near Twin Lakes.—
ORRA PARKER PHELPS, Chapinville, Connecticut.

ARCEUTHOBIUM PUSILLUM AT MT. DESERT.— Since the discovery of the Dwarf Mistletoe in abundance on Isle au Haut in East Penobscot Bay I have seen no reason why it should not occur on Mt. Desert as well, and have, therefore, from time to time made careful search for it in the endeavor to extend its range eastward along the coast. I met with no success in my examination of its most common host-plant, the Swamp Spruce (*Picea nigra* Link). Witches' brooms, to be sure, were often met with, but all appeared due to some other cause. I, therefore, began to think that the Island was free from this destructive but interesting plant. In August, 1906, however, just back of the precipitous cliff of Great Head on Frenchmans Bay a thriving colony of *Arceuthobium* was found at last. At the time it was unfortunately impossible to make careful observations of the extent of this colony, but judging from the general appearance of the spruces it had been long established. The host-plant here proved, in every case observed, to be the White Spruce (*Picea alba* Link), the most characteristic spruce of the rocky shores of the region.

The facts observed in regard to the dwarf mistletoe and this host were practically the same as those mentioned by Dr. von Schrenk as occurring under the same conditions on Monhegan Island and the neighboring mainland, published in RHODORA (ii. 2, 1900), so any repetition is unnecessary. One observation, however, made from these Mt. Desert specimens I speak of here because, so far as I know,

there is no prior record of it. The influence of the parasite on its host is well marked in various ways, as noted in the article above referred to, and is of a decidedly stimulating character as is shown by greatly increased growth of branchlets and leaves. In my specimens a further effect was shown by a decided change in the odor of the spruce leaves where this stimulated growth took place, or in other words where the mistletoe was found. When I first noticed a sweetish balsamic odor, far more resembling that of the Fir Balsam than that of the White Spruce, I felt that I had mistaken the identity of the host-plant. I found, however, that I had made no mistake, but that these White Spruce leaves no longer retained in any marked degree the disagreeable odor which has given the species the name of Cat, or Skunk Spruce. This modification of odor thus produced in the host by the parasite is very agreeable, and so marked as to be decidedly noticeable. This fact I verified by submitting specimens to a number of persons, all of whom reached this same conclusion. Some of them could not be convinced that the leaves from the infected and the uninfected trees were not those of different species. It may be added that some species of *Arceuthobium* have a decidedly balsamic odor, but this was not noticed in my specimens of *A. pusillum*.—EDWARD L. RAND, Boston.

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